

rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the report except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule permits the Chair, during consideration of the bill in the House, to postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Conyers and Representatives Berman, Jackson-Lee of Texas, Michaud, Smith of Texas, Issa, and Manzullo.

CONFERENCE REPORT—COLLEGE COST REDUCTION ACT OF 2007

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 8 to 3, a rule providing for the consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill H.R. 2669 to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 601 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008. The resolution waives all points of order against the conference report and its consideration. The resolution considers the conference report as read. Testimony was heard from Chairman Miller of California and Representative McKeon.

NASA ASTRONAUT HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

Committee on Science and Technology: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on NASA's Astronaut Health Care System—Results of an Independent Review. Testimony was heard from COL Richard E. Backmann, Jr., USAF, Chair, NASA Astronaut Health Care System Review; and the following officials of NASA: Michael Griffin, Administrator; Richard S. Williams, M.D., Chief, Health and Medical Officer; Bryan O'Connor, Chief, Safety and Mission Assurance; and Ellen Ochoa, Director, Flight Crew Operations.

SBA'S INVESTMENT AND SURETY BOND PROGRAMS

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing on the Small Business Administration's Investment and Surety Bond Programs. Testimony was heard from Steven C. Preston, Administrator, SBA; and public witnesses.

VETERANS PREFERENCE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing on Veterans Preference. Testimony was heard from Neil A.G. McPhie, Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board; Patricia S. Bradshaw, Deputy Under Secretary, Defense for Civilian Personnel Policy, Department of Defense; Boyd K. Rutherford, Assistant Secretary, Administration, USDA; Anita R. Hanson, Outreach

Group Manager, OPM; John McWilliam, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor; Willie Hensley, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Human Resources Management, Department of Veterans Affairs; representatives of veterans organizations; and public witnesses.

TAX CODE FAIRNESS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Fair and Equitable Tax Policy for American's Working Families. Testimony was heard from Peter R. Orszag, Director, CBO; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, former Director, CBO; Eugene Steuerle, former Deputy Assistant Secretary, Tax Analysis, Department of the Treasury; and public witnesses.

FISA

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). Testimony was heard from LTG Keith B. Alexander, USA, Director, NSA, Department of Defense; and the following officials of the Department of Justice: Robert S. Mueller III, Director, FBI; and Kenneth Wainstein, Assistant Attorney General, National Security Division.

FUTURE OF COAL UNDER CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming: Held a hearing entitled "The Future of Coal Under Carbon Capture and Storage." Testimony was heard from Dave Freudenthal, Governor of Wyoming; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine a report of the Government Accountability Office's assessment of 18 Iraq benchmarks, with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 immediately following the open session, 9 a.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 811, Voter Confidence and Increased Accessibility Act of 2007, 10:30 a.m., H-313 Capitol.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Iraq National Intelligence Estimate, 11 a.m., H-405 Capitol.